



The LINK

Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services

for Child Care Professionals

Spring 2001

Funding for programs that enrich child care

Editor's note: Elizabeth Egge, more commonly known as Liz to her friends and co-workers, joined the Headquarters staff in January. She transferred to Olympia from Region 2, where she licensed child care centers in Yakima and Kittitas Counties. She says she has been on a steep learning curve and is endeavoring to learn as much as possible about her primary responsibility, writing the Child Care Development Fund Plan (CCDF) for the state.

By Liz Egge, OCCP Program Manager

The CCDF Plan is the principal source of federal funding for child care subsidies for low-income families and initiatives to improve the quality of child care in states.

Each state qualifies to receive an amount of federal funds each year, and can receive additional federal funds by spending state dollars for child care subsidies and quality initiatives. Federal law establishes a set of requirements that states must meet in order to receive CCDF Funds, but states have very broad discretion in many of the basic design features of their low-income subsidy programs and quality initiatives. The Office of Child Care Policy is the lead agency responsible for receipt of federal funds.

I feel very privileged to be a part of the CCDF strategic planning decision process. Opinions of providers help with our strategic planning efforts and are considered in developing the plan. Consideration is made for the potential consequences of decisions on all stakeholders.

In addition, I am the program manager here at Headquarters assigned to BrainNet.

BrainNet is a statewide strategic alliance of public and private partners. The mission of BrainNet is to improve the lives of children by ensuring that all persons and systems who come into contact with pregnant women and children promote healthy optimal brain development.

I am a part of a Steering Committee comprised of stakeholders in Washington. There are also workgroups addressing the areas of public awareness, training and research review.

BrainNet has prepared, statewide, more than 600 "grassroots" volunteer trainers to promote healthy optimal brain development in their communities. I was one of the original trainers and am passionate about BrainNet. These trainers, in turn, have presented this information to over 12,000 individuals across the state.

A shortage of licensed child care for infants and toddlers exists within our state. As a result of BrainNet start-up grants, approximately 700 more infants and toddlers are able to receive quality care. Other public education efforts include the development of informational brochures and the construction of a Web site, www.BrainNet.wa.gov. BrainNet welcomes your interest.

As part of the Intergenerational Child Care Project, I also am responsible for implementation and monitoring of the Read N Rock program. The Read N Rock program is a program that brings seniors together with babies in child care facilities for the purpose of providing valuable and consistent one-on-one interaction. Research has shown that babies are born learning.

Every time a baby is held and gently touched, a message is sent to his or her brain and a connection is made between brain cells. Reading and rocking are ways to enhance brain development in very young children. The more attention a baby receives, the greater the chance of optimal

brain development. The Read N Rock program helps to enrich the time babies are in child care with positive experiences in the arms of a caring community elder.

Currently, the Read N Rock program is being piloted through the Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup.

Wage and Career Ladder

By Denise Halloran, Program Manager

The Wage and Career Ladder Project is a statewide collaborative effort between the State of Washington and child care centers to enhance the quality of child care by providing an economic incentive to early education and school-age caregivers to further their education and retain their positions as child care workers.

A total of 124 child care centers and 1,200 to 1,500 child care workers are participating. The Career Ladder emphasizes the importance of and funds wage increment increases for education, experience, and level of responsibility.

The Wage Ladder establishes a scale of wage increments based on education, experience and level of responsibility.

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*Check this out!

There is a new resource for child care providers on the Web. Get information about licensing, training, financing and other resources at www.childcarenet.org. Thanks to the Washington Child Care Resource and Referral Network for this great new resource.

Hello! My name is Rachael Langen and I am the new director for the new Division of Child Care and Early Learning. I have been the administrator of Working Connections Child Care for four years and know lots about subsidies. This gives me a wonderful opportunity to learn more about licensing policy and operations.

I am the mother of two school-age children who are in a licensed center. I truly admire all those who have made sure my children and others are in healthy, safe, and quality environments - licensors, health surveyors, caretakers and community-based organizations who support child care providers! My husband and I - and all working parents - are able to go to work, secure in the knowledge that our kids are well-cared for by people who really care about them. Thank you for all you do!

It is such an exciting time to be involved in child care and out of school time! The new division (see

Olympia LINK

*By Rachael Langen,
Director of Division of Child
Care and Early Learning*

below) provides us an opportunity to merge and coordinate functions that have been done in various parts of DSHS and state government. Although individual child care



providers and partner organizations may not notice differences right away, over time I hope you will see improvements.

For example, providers always have questions about rules for the subsidy program. Having one administration responsible for both will allow us to better coordinate how information gets to providers. How about an orientation for newly-licensed providers about subsidies? Or training that is "STARS-approved" so it counts towards your annual training requirements?

And all those contractors who have multiple contracts with OCCP and Economic Services - ever dream of having just one contract? We are already working to make that dream a reality.

I am very excited about this opportunity to continue my learning about the child care system AND about our transition to the new Division of Child Care and Early Learning. If you have hopes and concerns you would like me to know, please e-mail me at lara300@dshs.wa.gov. Although I may not be able to respond individually, I will read everything I receive!

Welcome the new Division of Child Care and Early Learning

By Karen Wheeler, OCCP Program Manager

On July 1, the Economic Services Administration welcomes the new Division of Child Care and Early Learning. The new division will include the Office of Child Care Policy from the Children's Administration, Working

Connections Child Care Unit from the Economic Services Administration, Department of Health surveyors, and the staff of the Head Start - State Collaboration Project currently managed in the Governor's Office of Financial Management.

Rachel Langen has been appointed to head up this new division.

In August 2000, Gov. Gary Locke directed all executive cabinet agencies that administer child care and early learning programs to develop a policy agenda that balances the need for high quality programs with the demand for affordable and accessible child care.

The Governor requested and DSHS accepted the challenge to better coordinate various programs and business practices by developing an organizational structure that supports these goals.

The goals of the new division are increased coordination between the licensing and subsidy programs, both of which impact child care providers in our state, and improved /coordination of contracts, fiscal management, and information technology.

Since January, work groups have been meeting to organize the details of the transition to the new division and ensure a smooth transition for families receiving child care, child care providers, and staff.

The work groups, composed of field and headquarters staff from all the units moving to the new division, are meeting to make sure that contracts, facility, budget, equipment, and personnel questions are identified and addressed prior to July 1st.

The groups are also identifying policy and procedural issues the new division needs to address in the coming years. Staff groups are reviewing suggestions and will make their recommendations to John Atherton, assistant secretary of Economic Services.

Transitions by their nature are hard on the participants. Hope and opportunity clash with confusion and anxiety. The department is committed to making this transition as smooth as possible for staff, providers, and stakeholders. More information on the transition will be posted on the DSHS and OCCP Web pages at www.wa.gov/dshs and www.wa.gov/dshs/occp.

The LINK

The Link is a quarterly publication of the Office of Child Care Policy (OCCP), Children's Administration, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), for child care professionals. Send questions, comments, or ideas to the Coordinator, The Link, DSHS/OCCP, P.O. Box 45700, Olympia, WA 98504-5700.

*Roselyn Oreskovich, Assistant Secretary,
Children's Administration*

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*Rachel Langen, Director, Division of Child
Care and Early Learning*

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Publications Management, Design

Ask your licenser

By Leslie Edwards-Hill
Licensing Program
Manager

Q. *Should a family child care home provider be required to pump out their septic system on a regular basis?*

A. Providers are responsible for following the requirements of their local health department. Because requirements change from county to county, we may only require that the FCC home provider's septic system is "approved" by the local health department.

Eligibility in food program includes "for-profits"

For-profit child care centers may participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), if they are receiving funding under Title XX of the Social Security Act for 25 percent of their licensed or enrolled capacity.

The Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2001, Public Law 106-224, made a significant change to the eligibility of for-profit child care centers in the CACFP. Under the new authority, for-profit centers are eligible to participate if 25 percent of the participants are eligible for free and reduced-price (F/RP) meals.

The new provision does not remove, or in any way affect, the eligibility status of for-profit organizations that participate in

the CACFP under the Title XX provision. New, or currently participating, for-profit organizations may choose to participate under either eligibility provision provided they meet the appropriate requirements.

Proprietary centers may not combine children receiving Title XX support with children meeting the free and reduced-price eligibility criteria in order to meet the 25 percent threshold.

For-profit organizations entering the CACFP under this new provision must meet all other program requirements and are required to attend training prior to participation. In addition, Child Nutrition Services is required to conduct a pre-approval visit prior to participation.

It is vital that new sponsors entering the program thoroughly understand their responsibilities and have the technical expertise to properly administer the CACFP.

Current sponsors must notify Child Nutrition Services any time the new eligibility method is used. This must be noted on the reimbursement claim for each month free and reduced price eligibility is used to meet the 25 percent requirement as opposed to having 25 percent or higher, Title XX eligible children. This provision is in effect only through September 30, 2001.

If you have any questions, contact Carol Griffith, CACFP supervisor, at (360) 753-3580.

Health & Safety Tips

Beware of choking dangers

(from *Healthy Child Care Magazine*)

Almost 300 children age five and under die of choking every year. Choking can usually be prevented.

When a child starts crawling or walking, check your house carefully for small objects.

Look under couch cushions, under furniture, and all over the floor for rubber bands, paper clips, safety pins, or other small objects. If the child is less than four years old, be sure his toys do not have small or broken parts.

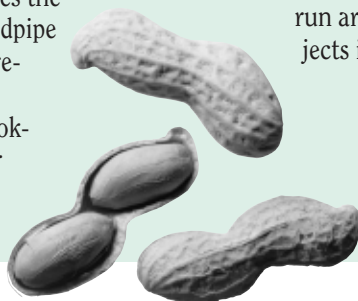
Any child can choke on coins, jacks, marbles, or other small objects. Teach the child to never hold objects such as pins, coins, or caps from ink pens, in her mouth. Latex balloons are very dangerous. If the child inhales the balloon, it can cover the windpipe and you may not be able to remove it.

Some foods can cause choking. Children under age four should never eat peanuts,

popcorn, or hard candy. Hot dogs and grapes are dangerous because they are round and because the skin of the hot dog or grape can block the child's windpipe. These should be skinned and cut into small pieces. Sticky foods, such as a spoonful of peanut butter or a handful of raisins, can also cause choking. Teach children to chew their food carefully.

Don't let children run or jump while eating food or candy, or chewing gum.

Also, don't let children walk or run around with other objects in their mouths.



Reflections on STARS

By Marge Johnson,
STARS Program Manager

In just a few short years, a career development system for licensed child care providers has been implemented. There are over 21,000 providers listed in the STARS Registry; over 4,500 child care providers have received scholarships totaling more than \$450,000; and there are 274 trainers and 103 training organizations approved to offer training. Career development for the ECE profession is truly moving ahead in Washington!

Region 1

LAY ONE BRICK AT A TIME

BY LEE WILLIAMS

REGIONAL MANAGER

"People say, 'What is the sense of our small effort?' They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time."

- Dorothy Day

This quote sent by a friend jumped out at me as I was reflecting on what is going on in our region. Each of us has bricks we are laying one at a time as to ensure that children are getting quality child care.

First, our secretaries. How would we stay connected if they were not here for us? Gloria and Leta work hard everyday answering phone calls from the public and our providers. As I listen I hear them offering information about orientations and licensing processes, and most importantly offering encouragement and support. I know that they both are invaluable to me to be able to do my work.

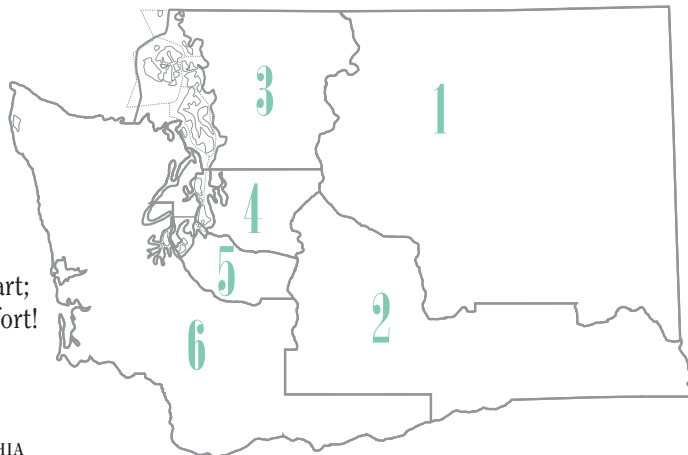
Our licensors, Theresa, Shannon, Linda, Ardie, Shirley, Kathy, Helen, Haydee, Norene, Grace, Debbie, Marion and Tracy, who go every day into homes and centers offering their knowledge, skills and encouragement to providers. They lay their bricks one at a time licensing and monitoring facilities, making sure they get information, offering technical assistance and resources, giving them a helping hand through the licensing maze.

Our co-workers in DLR/CPS, Bob, Mike, Patty, and Mike, who are working with us side-by-side to investigate allegations of child abuse and neglect in our homes and centers. They offer us their expertise and treat us as partners as we tackle tough situations and questions to ensure that our children in care are in safe and healthy places.

Our health surveyor, Kate. She has plunged into an impossible workload to ensure that health and safety practices in our centers are meeting a standard for our children in care. She is a partner, attending our staff meetings and sharing her knowledge of health practices.

As a regional manager I see how all of us work to lay our bricks one at a time. I see a new pathway leading us to a new

destination with a new division focusing on child care. I feel so lucky to have this team of individuals working with me to reach this destination. Thanks to all of you for doing your individual part; it truly is not a small effort!



Region 2

BYE LIZ AND HELLO CYNTHIA

BY KARRI LIVINGSTON

REGION 2 REGIONAL MANAGER

In early January of this year, Liz Egge, our child care center licensor for Kittitas and Yakima Counties left Region 2 to join her husband in Olympia. She was very fortunate to obtain a position in our OCCP Headquarters in Olympia. She is expanding her knowledge base and putting her experience in child care to good use by writing the Federal Child Care Development Fund Plan for the State of Washington.

We are happy we can still keep in touch with Liz in her new position but we miss seeing her smiling face, her warm hugs and her infectious laugh. Liz' extensive experience in early childhood education, her passion for early brain development, and her commitment to quality child care was a huge asset to Region 2.

Her willingness to help her supervisor at a moments notice (especially volunteering to write these articles) was truly appreciated. She will always have a place in our hearts.

Region 2 OCCP welcomes Cynthia Juarez to the center licensing position for Yakima and Kittitas Counties. Cynthia has spent the last 17 months licensing family child care homes in Yakima. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge in early childhood, including a master's degree in early childhood special education and bachelor's degree in speech pathology and audiology.

She has extensive experience working in

Head Start and Migrant Head Start programs as a preschool teacher, special services/mental health coordinator and education/disabilities specialist.

Cynthia is also a STARS-approved trainer and recently received training to become a Head Start monitor. Her bilingual skills will certainly enhance our ability to serve Spanish-speaking, child care center staff working in Region 2. As a proud mom to two young children, Cynthia is very aware of the child care needs in her community.

Thank you Liz, for impacting our lives in Region 2. Thank you Cynthia, for taking on this new challenge.

Region 3

RUSSIAN EXPERIENCE

BY LARRY LEVINE

REGIONAL MANAGER

For this issue of the LINK, it gives me great pleasure to profile a very special person: Olga Ananko, coordinator, TANF Child Care Careers Program, Volunteers of America, Snohomish County Child Care Resource and Referral.

This highly successful program trains TANF recipients to be child care staff and/or to be licensed as a family home provider. More than 100 TANF recipients have been enrolled, with a 70 percent successful completion rate.

(Continued on page 6)

MEN IN CHILD CARE**Survey**

You want the best for the children in your care. You want these young boys and girls to grow up into happy and healthy men and women. And you know young children need to be around both men and women to do this.

Unfortunately, many young children don't have positive male role models in their homes or their child care settings. More men can be recruited as staff in child care settings. A first step in doing this is to determine how many men currently work with young children.

Help us take this first step. Please take a moment to fill out and return this brief survey. It is important to do this even if no men are working with children in your child care setting.

All responses are anonymous and results of this survey will be shared in the future. If you have any questions please contact Sandy Charyn by telephone at (206) 721-6735 or by e-mail at chsa300@dshs.wa.gov. Thank you for your assistance!



1. Is there a man who interacts regularly with children while they are in your care?

- _____ NO (please go to questions #6 and #7)
 _____ YES - write the number of men here _____

2. What is his role or roles (check all that apply & enter the number if more than one man has this role):

Child Care Centers

- _____ director or administrator
 _____ supervisor or coordinator
 _____ teacher or caregiver
 _____ assistant or aide
 _____ bus driver
 _____ cook
 _____ custodian
 _____ volunteer
 _____ other (please describe)

Family Child Care Facilities

- _____ licensed provider
 _____ assistant
 _____ volunteer
 _____ husband who interacts informally
 _____ husband-assistant who performs specific duties
 _____ son who interacts informally
 _____ son-assistant who performs specific duties
 _____ other (please describe)

3. What age of children does this man (or men) work with? (check all that apply)

- _____ infants
 _____ toddlers
 _____ preschool age children
 _____ school age children

4. For how many years has this man (or men) been working with young children?

- _____ less than 1 year
 _____ 1-3 years
 _____ 3-5 years
 _____ more than 5 years.

5. What kind of training does this man (or men) have to work with young children?

- _____ some workshops about the care of young children
 _____ a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential
 _____ a degree from a 2 year college
 _____ a degree from a 4 year college
 _____ a master's degree
 _____ other (please describe)

6. How have you tried to recruit men? If so, what has been successful?

7. Is there anything else you would like to share with us about men who work with young children?

MEN IN CHILD CARE**Survey**

Complete this survey, fold and tape at the top (no staples) with the business reply mailing label on the outside.

No postage needed. Mail to:

DSHS Office of Child Care Policy
Sandy Charyn
2809 26th Ave. S.
Seattle, WA 98144

Please return your completed survey by June 22, 2001

(Region 3 Continued from page 4)

In coordination with Skagit Valley College in Mount Vernon, Olga is currently training 14 individuals to be child care staff. At least 80 percent of all participants are Russian-speaking TANF recipients from the Ukraine.

Olga came to the United States from the Ukraine in 1992. She was born and raised in Krasnodar, Russia, located approximately 600 miles south of Moscow. Her grandfather was persecuted for being a Pentecostal Christian. He was arrested and died in prison for his religious beliefs. Olga herself was also persecuted.

With sadness, she described how she was made fun of and beaten by fellow-students and teachers. In spite of this treatment, Olga managed to graduate from high school. However, she was prevented from going to college because of her Christian religion.

In 1979, she moved to the Ukraine with her husband, Nikolay. She was able to get a job as a child care staff worker. She described how difficult the first few months were. Staff were reluctant to accept her

because of her religion.

As a result of her hard work and skill, Olga remained in the child care center for 11 years. The center was subsidized by the government and cared for as many as 400 children, ages one through seven.

Children were divided by age into groups of 25-30 children, with two staff assigned to each group. Each child was served breakfast, hot lunch, snack and dinner. Each child, regardless of age, was required to take a nap. The center was large enough so that each child could take a nap in a regular-sized bed.

More on Olga's story will appear in The Link this summer.

Region 4

HOW DO YOU SPELL THAT?

By CHARLOTTE JAHN,

CHILD CARE CENTER LICENSOR

Accreditation (n) (from the Latin root word to believe) the meeting of a pre-

scribed standard or specific requirement, especially the granting of approval to an institution of learning.

Pronouncing it is impressive, understanding it is admirable but given the statistics for Washington state, accomplishing it is remarkable! There are 2,109 licensed centers in our state. Fewer than 140 are NAEYC accredited. But an exciting project is underway in Region 4A that will help make accreditation achievable.

Eight child care centers providing services to predominately children of color are the first group of what is hoped will be many who choose to work on NAEYC accreditation. The project model will follow each group through the completion of the process. Once the first group has accomplished its goal, they will become mentors for the next one.

The combined efforts of Project Liftoff, the culturally-specific Child Care Task Forces, Child Care Resources, King County

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(Art goes here)

Business reply mailer

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and the Employer Champions for Children have enabled this project to take shape.

In mid-September, over 50 child care providers of color attended a full-day seminar with Jamilah Jor'dan, director of the Chicago Accreditation Project. They spoke enthusiastically about what is needed to embark on the journey to accreditation. (Recognition and support from the Office of Child Care Policy was on their list.) It was their persistence that finally launched the project.

Planning is in place to add programs in the broader community. Undoubtedly the centers will face many challenges as they pursue their objective of accreditation but they are committed to making improvements in the quality of care. Our licensors applaud their work and are ready to assist them in any way we can!

Region 5

EARTHQUAKE EXPERIENCE TEACHES

By FRANCES JORDEN & REBA OLSEN

FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME LICENSORS

What an end to the month of February! Some of us will remember February 28, 2001 at 10:55 a.m. for years to come. It is the day the earth shook! A common question after the earthquake was, "So, where were you when it happened?"

Let me tell you where I was. I was with a provider named Tammy in Tacoma, doing a "move visit." The child care area, which consists of four rooms and a spacious foyer, is separated from the rest of the home. The three children, between two and four years old, and Tammy's assistant were playing in the foyer. Tammy and I moved into the dining room area to do paperwork away from the children.

Suddenly, the windows of her home started to make a "drilling noise." For a moment, we were just looking at each other. Then the "drilling noise" got louder and the house was rocking. We ran to the children. By this time, her assistant had the children in a sitting position, away from the window. We all moved to the corner of the room-there were no tables to duck under.

The three adults encircled the children. Tammy kept talking to the children in a

calm voice. After it was over, Tammy went around the room making sure that the child care area was OK, and that the phone line was open for the parents to call in. The phone began ringing off the hook as parents called in to check on their children.

What a day! Tammy was fantastic! She was calm, natural and thought of the safety of the children first and foremost. I was fortunate to observe a provider in action. On behalf of OCCP, we thank all of our providers for ensuring the safety of our children in times like these.

In retrospect, I believe that the most important thing to do when an earthquake occurs is to act quickly to be as safe as possible. Beware of falling things.

Pay special attention to those who have sensory, developmental or physical limitations. A child strapped into a wheelchair could be tipped sideways and slide under furniture.

What would you do if a major earthquake happened while you are reading this?

Region 6

THE "RISKS" OF CHILDHOOD

By DARCY TAYLOR

FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME LICENSOR

I am pleased to have this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Darcy Taylor and I am a new member of Region Six OCCP licensing staff.

I have been a teacher of young children for 25 years, mostly at the Clark College Early Childhood Lab School in Vancouver. I taught a mixed age class of 18 two-and-a-half to five-and-a-half-year-olds. I was also an adjunct faculty member for 20 years.

I taught various ECE classes specializing in curriculum and environments. I have taught many ECE workshops and seminars for community and private organizations.

One of my goals is to be a "lifelong learner." In pursuit of that goal I returned to college and received my bachelor of arts degree in 1993 from WSU Vancouver branch.

This year I began looking for a new career that would use my years of educating children as a foundation to take me in a new direction. I feel very fortunate to be a family child care home licensor.

This isn't my first experience with li-

censed child care. When my daughter was young I was a licensed home provider. After returning to work I placed my daughter in several licensed homes during her kindergarten year. I feel I have come full circle with my new position.

Quality family child care is an important piece of the entire child care system. We have gone from babysitting to professional child care providers. During my short time as a licenser I have met some talented and enthusiastic providers. Most of the homes I have visited are really top-notch facilities. I am looking forward to my new career and the many challenges and rewarding adventures it will bring.

Subsidy reminder

By Sally Reigel

The Federal Poverty Level (FPL) changed in February 2001. This allowed DSHS to increase the income eligibility for the child care subsidy programs. The following chart shows the new maximum monthly income by family size:

Family Size	Maximum Gross Income
1	\$1,611
2	\$2,178
3	\$2,743
4	\$3,310
5	\$3,877
6	\$4,442
7	\$5,009
8	\$5,576
9	\$6,143
10	\$6,710

Families who have incomes at or below the income listed in the chart above may be eligible for Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) subsidy program through their local Community Services Office (CSO). An authorizing worker at the CSO will determine if a family meets other program eligibility requirements. To find the number for the CSO, check the local telephone book. The number for the Community Services Office is listed under Washington State in the Government section of your telephone book.

Look at the Web site at <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/geninfo/map3.html> for the location of CSO closest to you.

Additional money available for nutritious meals

By Ann Kaluzny, OCCP Program Manager

Washington state, through the Office of Child Care Policy, is providing additional money to family child care homes for nutritious meals to children. Family child care homes must be licensed with Washington state and participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The family child care homes must be located in areas where 30 - 49 percent of the children under 12 years old are eligible for free or reduced price meals by school district or eligible by census.

This program is offering an additional incentive of \$750 to newly-licensed homes that sign up and participate in the CACFP and \$300 to licensed homes that are newly-enrolled or returning to CACFP. For details on eligibility dates, contact any of the nutrition programs.

For more information on the Family Child Care Quality Incentive Program, contact your nutrition program or the local Child Care Resource and Referral Network for names of contractors who will work with you.

Seasonal and Homeless Child Care

By Cecelia Callison, Program Manager

HOMELESS CHILD CARE PROGRAM, Offers Incentive To Providers:

An "Enhancement Rate" is available to child care providers who care for children through the Homeless Child Care Program in an effort to increase access for homeless children. This rate is consistent statewide at \$8 for a full-day of care and \$4 for a half-day of care. It is payable in addition to the appropriate subsidy rate, which varies according to the child's age and DSHS region.

This subsidy program provides immediate access to child care for homeless families who are involved in qualified activities and not eligible for another subsidized program. Often this means that children need temporary or drop-in care while their parents gain stability. The "Enhancement Rate" gives the child care provider an incentive to accept a child who has a temporary need for care in a quality, caring environment.

This program's payment system is explained in full to providers upon authorization by the contracted community agencies that perform those services.

SEASONAL CHILD CARE PROGRAM, Your Assurance Of Payment:

Families who are enrolled in the Seasonal Child Care program will give an authorization form to you, the provider. This is your assurance that the family qualifies for payment through this program for the described services. If you accept a family into your care merely on the assumption of program eligibility, you do so at your own risk.

There have been instances where a provider has guessed wrong and the family is not qualified due to not meeting program or income eligibility criteria or because funds were not available to serve the family. In these situations, the parents are responsible for the child care that has been provided. Unfortunately, the parents are not always able to pay the provider and the provider "loses out." The Seasonal Child Care program has limited funds to assist families and participation is not guaranteed to all who apply. Your receipt of a Seasonal Child Care authorization is your assurance that the family is eligible for payment through this program.

Child Care Micro Loans

The Child Care Micro Loan program provides affordable resources to licensed or certified child care centers and family child care homes. These loans are to improve child care for low- and moderate-income families.

Micro-loans are available in 20 counties. Interest rates vary from five percent to 11 percent. Loans are available to family child care providers up to \$5,000 and to child care centers up to \$25,000.

For more information contact:

Benton-Franklin Community Action Committee

Adams, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Grant, Klickitat, and Walla Walla counties
Contact: Andrea Derr (509) 545-4042 ex. 204
aderr@bfcac.org

Community Capital Development

Seattle, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom counties (focusing on center providers)
Contact: Pam Jones (206) 324-4330 ex. 105
pamelaj@seattleccd.com

Metropolitan Development Council

Pierce and Thurston counties
Contact: Teresa Lemmons (253) 591-7026
ceo@seatac.net

Northwest Regional Facilitators

Spokane, Lincoln, Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties
Contact: Kathy Thamm (509) 484-6733
fcr@iea.com

Washington Cash

King, Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties
(focusing on family home providers)
Contact: Peter Rose (206) 352-1945
washcash@nwlink.com

The LINK

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services
Children's Administration
Division of Licensed Resources
Office of Child Care Policy
P.O. Box 45700
Olympia, WA 98504-5700

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